**November 2021 Next Stop News**

* Rider Reminder Holiday Schedule
* Learn more about SacRT on the Move, Short Range Transit Plan
* Provide feedback, participate in Unmet Transit Needs hearings

**Unmet Transit Needs Hearing**

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) will be holding unmet transit needs hearings in four counties (Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba) to collect comments from the public on their unmet transit needs starting on Monday, November 1, 2021. All hearings for this round of unmet transit needs will be held remotely via Zoom.

Visit sacog.org/unmet-transit-needs for more information on the hearings and the different ways people can participate.

**SacRT on the Move – Short-Range Transit Plan**

SacRT’s Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) update is advancing to the next step with the scheduling of two virtual open houses this month! SacRT encourages riders and the entire community to be involved in this important process as we consider the trends and conditions in today’s Sacramento region.

SacRT has spent several months planning, analyzing and discussing ideas to establish what we think service should look like over the next five years, if and when additional operating funds become available. SacRT is always searching for additional revenue sources in order to provide the best transit service to the region, and we need to be prepared with a functional and sound plan to move forward with if that comes to fruition.

The virtual open houses will allow SacRT to share updates on the plan thus far and provides an opportunity for the community to voice their thoughts and ideas. Events will be held via Zoom during the following days and times:

* Wednesday November 10, 2021: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
* Wednesday November 17, 2021: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

SacRT continues to look closely at where we stand post-SacRT Forward, and post-pandemic; therefore, it is important to hear from the greater Sacramento community. We encourage your participation at one of our virtual events! For questions, please contact Sarah Poe, SacRT Planner at spoe@sacrt.com or visit sacrt.com/SRTP for more information and Zoom links.

**Free Rides to COVID-19 Vaccination Locations**

SacRT has extended free transit rides to scheduled COVID-19 vaccine appointments through Friday, December 31, 2021. SacRT began offering free rides on March 1, 2021.

The free rides include all vaccination sites in Sacramento County within SacRT’s service area, including hospitals, pharmacies, and other immunization locations.

To ride free, you only need to show a COVID-19 vaccine appointment confirmation in the form of an email, text or vaccine card, which will serve as valid fare only on the date noted in your appointment confirmation to ride SacRT’s fixed-route bus, light rail, Elk Grove Transit, Folsom Stage Line, SmaRT Ride or SacRT GO Paratransit Services. Please note: free rides are not available for SacRT’s contracted services (Rancho CordoVan).

When boarding a bus, show the operator either a printout or screenshot on a smartphone, or have ready to show a fare inspector when riding light rail. SacRT requires anyone riding transit, or visiting the SacRT Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street, to wear a mask.

Visit sacrt.com/covid19 for more on our COVID-19 precautions.

**Make the Holidays Magical in Downtown Sacramento**

Celebrate the holidays this winter in downtown Sacramento. After pausing for a season in 2020, both the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink and Theatre of Lights are back, bringing amazing opportunities for holiday memories back to Sacramento. The Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink presented by Dignity Health, the region’s oldest and most beloved outdoor rink, opens on Veterans Day (Thursday, November 11, 2021) at Ali Youssefi Square (7th and K streets) in downtown Sacramento. The Downtown Ice Rink will be open Tuesday through Sunday until January 16, 2022.

To add to the winter festivities, and to continue a spirited holiday tradition for thousands of families throughout the region, the annual Theatre of Lights show will return this year to the Old Sacramento Waterfront. Also, presented by Dignity Health, Theatre of Lights is an electrifying and family-friendly show that debuts on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 (Thanksgiving eve), immediately following the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at Front & K Streets at 6 p.m. After the debut night, two performances are offered on Thursdays through Sundays at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. For more information about the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink, Theatre of Lights, and more downtown holiday events, visit GoDowntownSac.com. Avoid parking hassles and take SacRT to these fun holiday events. For trip planning assistance, visit sacrt.com or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

**Ride Free on the SacRT Holiday Bus**

## SacRT will continue its annual holiday tradition by offering free rides on the SacRT Holiday bus beginning Wednesday, December 1, 2021 through Sunday, January 2, 2022. The decorated 40-foot bus will travel on various routes throughout the region. Passengers will have the opportunity to deposit a donation in the farebox (cash or check accepted) benefiting a local charity to be announced in the coming weeks.

## View the schedule to find out when the Holiday Bus will be traveling to a neighborhood near you!

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12/1/2021 | Wednesday | 51 |  |  |
| 12/2/2021 | Thursday | 82 |  |  |
| 12/3/2021 | Friday | 1 |  |  |
| 12/4/2021 | Saturday | 11 |  |  |
| 12/5/2021 | Sunday | 67, 68 |  |  |
| 12/6/2021 | Monday | 86, 25 |  |  |
| 12/7/2021 | Tuesday | 13 |  |  |
| 12/8/2021 | Wednesday | 19 |  |  |
| 12/9/2021 | Thursday | 15, 88, 1 |  |  |
| 12/10/2021 | Friday | 81 |  |  |
| 12/11/2021 | Saturday | Santa Parade |  |  |
| 12/12/2021 | Sunday | 21 |  |  |
| 12/13/2021 | Monday | 56, 62 |  |  |
| 12/14/2021 | Tuesday | 75, 78 |  |  |
| 12/15/2021 | Wednesday | 25 |  |  |
| 12/16/2021 | Thursday | 72, 161, 84, 26 |  |  |
| 12/17/2021 | Friday | 142 |  |  |
| 12/18/2021 | Saturday | 87 |  |  |
| 12/19/2021 | Sunday | 84, 26 |  |  |
| 12/20/2021 | Monday | 30, 38 |  |  |
| 12/21/2021 | Tuesday | 61 |  |  |
| 12/22/2021 | Wednesday | 67, 68 |  |  |
| 12/23/2021 | Thursday | 21 |  |  |
| 12/24/2021 | Friday | 15, 23 |  |  |
| 12/25/2021 | Saturday (Holiday) | 81 |  |  |
| 12/26/2021 | Sunday | 23, 15, 88 |  |  |
| 12/27/2021 | Monday | 25 |  |  |
| 12/28/2021 | Tuesday | 93, 30, 38 |  |  |
| 12/29/2021 | Wednesday | 81 |  |  |
| 12/30/2021 | Thursday | 11 |  |  |
| 12/31/2021 | Friday | 51 |  |  |
| 1/1/2022 | Saturday (Holiday) | 1 |  |  |
| 1/2/2022 | Sunday | 86, 87 |  |  |

 **Rider Alert**

**Sunday/Holiday Schedule**

**Veterans Day (Thursday, November 11)**

SacRT fixed-route buses, light rail, Folsom Stage Line and SmaRT Ride will operate regular service. No service on Causeway Connection, Elk Grove transit or Rancho CordoVan.

**Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 25)**

SacRT fixed-route buses and light rail trains will operate on a Sunday/Holiday schedule. No service on Causeway Connection, Elk Grove transit, Folsom Stage Line, Rancho CordoVan or SmaRT Ride.

**Day After Thanksgiving (Friday, November 26)**

SacRT fixed-route buses, light rail, Folsom Stage Line, Rancho CordoVan and SmaRT Ride will operate regular service. No service on Causeway Connection or Elk Grove transit.

**Christmas Day Observed (Friday, December 24)**

SacRT fixed-route buses, light rail, Elk Grove transit, Folsom Stage Line, Rancho CordoVan and SmaRT Ride will operate regular service. No service on Causeway Connection.

**Christmas Day (Saturday, December 25)**

SacRT fixed-route buses and light rail trains will operate on a Sunday/Holiday schedule. No service on Causeway Connection, Elk Grove transit, Folsom Stage Line, Rancho CordoVan or SmaRT Ride.

**No Gold Line Service Disruption November 6 – 7**

Construction crews were able to complete the work on the Brighton Bridge during the weekend of October 30 and a second Gold Line light rail service disruption will not be needed on Saturday, November 6 or Sunday, November 7, 2021.